


		NTSB ID: DEN02LA099		Aircraft Registration Number: N219DF	
		Occurrence Date: 08/20/2002		Most Critical Injury: None	
		Occurrence Type: Accident		Investigated By: NTSB	
Location/Time					
Nearest City/Place Erie	State CO	Zip Code 80516	Local Time 1045	Time Zone MDT	
Airport Proximity: On Airport		Distance From Landing Facility:		Direction From Airport:	
Aircraft Information Summary					
Aircraft Manufacturer Hildebrandt		Model/Series Rutan/Defiant		Type of Aircraft Airplane	
Sightseeing Flight: No			Air Medical Transport Flight: No		
Narrative					
<p>Brief narrative statement of facts, conditions and circumstances pertinent to the accident/incident:</p> <p>On August 20, 2002, at 1045 mountain daylight time, a Hildebrandt Rutan Defiant, N219DF, was substantially damaged when it collided with terrain during a rejected takeoff at Erie Airpark, Erie, Colorado. The private pilot and one passenger were not injured. Day visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and no flight plan had been filed for the personal flight being conducted under Title 14 CFR Part 91. The flight was originating at the time of the accident.</p> <p>The following is based on a telephone interview with the pilot shortly after the accident, and the accident report he submitted. The pilot was taking off on runway 15. Power was applied to the rear engine, followed by power application to the forward engine. The airplane accelerated "slower than usual" and when the airplane was halfway down the runway, he elected to reject the takeoff. The pilot said he "couldn't rotate the airplane...it seemed to require more back pressure...it didn't seem right." He retarded power to both engines to idle and applied brakes. "The brakes seemed to grab at first, but then had no effect," he wrote. The pilot retarded the mixtures. The airplane went off the end of the runway and traveled 500 feet across rough terrain, collapsing the nose landing gear and bending the fairing. According to an FAA inspector who examined the airplane, the "Rhino" rudder and the engine cowling were crushed and the propeller was bent.</p> <p>The pilot said the fixed base operator's mechanic found a dowel from the left wheel pant about halfway down the runway. "I believe this may have contributed to my slower than usual takeoff roll. The calipers and linings on the brakes were fresh, I had just had them rebuilt/replaced," the pilot wrote.</p>					
FACTUAL REPORT - AVIATION					

 National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION		NTSB ID: DEN02LA099				
		Occurrence Date: 08/20/2002				
		Occurrence Type: Accident				
Landing Facility/Approach Information						
Airport Name Tri-County		Airport ID: 48V	Airport Elevation 5130 Ft. MSL	Runway Used 15	Runway Length 4700	Runway Width 60
Runway Surface Type: Concrete						
Runway Surface Condition: Dry						
Type Instrument Approach: Unknown						
VFR Approach/Landing: Unknown						
Aircraft Information						
Aircraft Manufacturer Hildebrandt		Model/Series Rutan/Defiant		Serial Number 039		
Airworthiness Certificate(s): Experimental (Special)						
Landing Gear Type: Retractable - Tricycle						
Homebuilt Aircraft? Yes		Number of Seats: 4	Certified Max Gross Wt. 3300 LBS	Number of Engines: 1		
Engine Type: Reciprocating		Engine Manufacturer: Lycoming	Model/Series: O-360-A1A	Rated Power: 180 HP		
- Aircraft Inspection Information						
Type of Last Inspection Annual		Date of Last Inspection	Time Since Last Inspection Hours	Airframe Total Time Hours		
- Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) Information						
ELT Installed? Yes		ELT Operated? No	ELT Aided in Locating Accident Site?			
Owner/Operator Information						
Registered Aircraft Owner Gregory A. Benson		Street Address On File				
		City Denver	State CO	Zip Code 80211		
Operator of Aircraft Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner		Street Address Same as Reg'd Aircraft Owner				
		City	State	Zip Code		
Operator Does Business As:			Operator Designator Code:			
- Type of U.S. Certificate(s) Held: None						
Air Carrier Operating Certificate(s):						
Operating Certificate:			Operator Certificate:			
Regulation Flight Conducted Under: Part 91: General Aviation						
Type of Flight Operation Conducted: Personal						
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First Pilot Information																																																																																						
Name			City		State	Date of Birth	Age																																																																															
On File			On File		On File	On File	36																																																																															
Sex: M	Seat Occupied: Left		Principal Profession: Unknown			Certificate Number: On File																																																																																
Certificate(s): Private																																																																																						
Airplane Rating(s): Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land																																																																																						
Rotorcraft/Glider/LTA: None																																																																																						
Instrument Rating(s): None																																																																																						
Instructor Rating(s): None																																																																																						
Type Rating/Endorsement for Accident/Incident Aircraft?					Current Biennial Flight Review? 04/2001																																																																																	
Medical Cert.: Class 3		Medical Cert. Status: Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.			Date of Last Medical Exam: 05/2001																																																																																	
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">- Flight Time Matrix</th> <th rowspan="2">All A/C</th> <th rowspan="2">This Make and Model</th> <th rowspan="2">Airplane Single Engine</th> <th rowspan="2">Airplane Multi-Engine</th> <th rowspan="2">Night</th> <th colspan="2">Instrument</th> <th rowspan="2">Rotorcraft</th> <th rowspan="2">Glider</th> <th rowspan="2">Lighter Than Air</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Actual</th> <th>Simulated</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total Time</td> <td>574</td> <td>20</td> <td>553</td> <td>20</td> <td>60</td> <td>7</td> <td>66</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pilot In Command(PIC)</td> <td>484</td> <td>18</td> <td>466</td> <td>18</td> <td>57</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Instructor</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last 90 Days</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td>10</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last 30 Days</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Last 24 Hours</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>								- Flight Time Matrix	All A/C	This Make and Model	Airplane Single Engine	Airplane Multi-Engine	Night	Instrument		Rotorcraft	Glider	Lighter Than Air	Actual	Simulated	Total Time	574	20	553	20	60	7	66				Pilot In Command(PIC)	484	18	466	18	57						Instructor											Last 90 Days	10	10		10							Last 30 Days											Last 24 Hours										
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Seatbelt Used? Yes		Shoulder Harness Used? No			Toxicology Performed? No		Second Pilot? No																																																																															
Flight Plan/Itinerary																																																																																						
Type of Flight Plan Filed: None																																																																																						
Departure Point		State		Airport Identifier		Departure Time		Time Zone																																																																														
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Destination		State		Airport Identifier																																																																																		
Walsenburg		CO		4V1																																																																																		
Type of Clearance: None																																																																																						
Type of Airspace: Class G																																																																																						
Weather Information																																																																																						
Source of Briefing: Unknown																																																																																						
Method of Briefing: Unknown																																																																																						


 National Transportation Safety Board FACTUAL REPORT AVIATION			NTSB ID: DEN02LA099		
			Occurrence Date: 08/20/2002		
			Occurrence Type: Accident		

Weather Information					
WOF ID	Observation Time	Time Zone	WOF Elevation	WOF Distance From Accident Site	Direction From Accident Site
BJC	1046	MDT	5670 Ft. MSL	NM	Deg. Mag.
Sky/Lowest Cloud Condition:			Ft. AGL	Condition of Light: Day	
Lowest Ceiling: Broken		8000 Ft. AGL		Visibility: 10 SM	Altimeter: 29.95 "Hg
Temperature: 30 °C	Dew Point: 10 °C	Wind Direction: 70		Density Altitude: 8575 Ft.	
Wind Speed: 10	Gusts:	Weather Conditions at Accident Site: Visual Conditions			
Visibility (RVR): Ft.	Visibility (RVV)	SM	Intensity of Precipitation:		
Restrictions to Visibility: None					
Type of Precipitation: None					

Accident Information					
Aircraft Damage: Substantial		Aircraft Fire: None		Aircraft Explosion: None	
Classification: U.S. Registered/U.S. Soil					
- Injury Summary Matrix	Fatal	Serious	Minor	None	TOTAL
First Pilot				1	1
Second Pilot					
Student Pilot					
Flight Instructor					
Check Pilot					
Flight Engineer					
Cabin Attendants					
Other Crew					
Passengers				1	1
- TOTAL ABOARD -				2	2
Other Ground					
- GRAND TOTAL -				2	2

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Administrative Information		
Investigator-In-Charge (IIC) Arnold W. Scott		
Additional Persons Participating in This Accident/Incident Investigation: Robert C Bunderson Aviation Safety Inspector - Airworthiness FAA Flight Standards District Office 26805 E. 68th Ave., Suite 200 Denver, CO 80249		
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